

February 28, 2011

Bureau of Land Management
Arizona Strip District
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STRIP FIELD OFFICE

MAR 04 2011

RE: Please Protect the Grand Canyon from Uranium Mining

I support protecting the Grand Canyon's entire one-million-acre watershed from uranium mining as outlined in Alternative B in the Draft Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Environmental Impact Statement and Revisions to the Withdrawal Application, Arizona.

Grand Canyon National Park is an international treasure. The diversity of habitats resulting from its great depth, its diverse topography, and its isolated seeps, springs and caves make it one of the most biologically diverse national parks in the United States.

Uranium mining threatens to industrialize iconic wildlands surrounding the Grand Canyon with dozens of new mines, damage wildlife habitat, and pollute and deplete aquifers feeding the Grand Canyon's biologically critical seeps, springs and caves.

Neither the federal government nor mining companies can guarantee that mining would not contaminate or deplete aquifers feeding Grand Canyon's seeps, springs and caves. And if it did happen, that pollution would be impossible to clean up.

Public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon, and Grand Canyon National Park itself, already suffer from a legacy of uranium mining pollution. More uranium mining would only add to that legacy in a time when the government should be focused on cleaning that legacy up.

Grand Canyon National Park supplies hundreds of millions of dollars of annual revenue to Arizona, Utah and Nevada. Contamination or industrialization from uranium mining threatens that tourism industry and the livelihoods of local residents who depend on it.

Please protect the Grand Canyon watershed by withdrawing the entire area described in Alternative B from location and entry under the Mining Law for 20 years.

Thank you for your help.

Yours truly,



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